

SMART & BIGGAR

Intellectual Property & Technology Law

438 University Avenue
Suite 1500, Box 111
Toronto, Ontario Canada M5G 2K8
Tel. (416) 593-5514 Fax (416) 591-1690
www.smart-biggar.ca

Ronald D. Faggetter
rdfaggetter@smart-biggar.ca

Our Ref: 92835-1

February 3, 2003

BY FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

(To: 703-872-9708)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
U.S.A.

Attention: S. Purvis, Examiner

Dear Ms. Purvis:

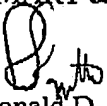
Re: United States Patent Application No. 09/883,244
Art Unit: 1734
Filing Date: June 19, 2001
Applicants: Peter C. Nielsen and Joseph Z. Sleiman
Title: LABELLING APPARATUS AND METHOD

During our telephone conversation of January 28, 2003, you advised that it appears the U.S. PTO did not receive our Preliminary Amendment submitted December 24, 2002. Accordingly, as requested, we are transmitting a signed duplicate copy of this Preliminary Amendment for entry in this application.

We had also filed an Information Disclosure Statement at the same time as the Preliminary Amendment. As it may be that you have also not received this, I am taking the liberty of transmitting a duplicate copy of same.

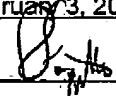
Yours very truly,

SMART & BIGGAR


Ronald D. Faggetter
Registration No.33,345

RDF:bw
Encl.

TORONTO MONTREAL OTTAWA EDMONTON VANCOUVER

<p align="center">Certificate of Transmission</p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office Fax No. <u>(703) 872-9708</u> on <u>February 3, 2003</u></p> <p>Signature <u></u></p> <p align="center"><u>Ronald D. Faggetter</u> <small>Typed or printed name of person signing this certificate</small></p>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#8
TL 3/6/03

In re the application of:

Peter C. Nielsen et al.

Serial No.: 09/883,244

Filed: June 19, 2001

For: LABELLING APPARATUS AND
METHODCommissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
U.S.A.

Group Art Unit: 1734

Examiner: Sue A. Purvis

Attorney Docket: 92835-1

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on March 4, 2003

Signature

Ronald D. Faggetter

Typed or printed name of person signing this certificate

Dear Sir:

PTO Customer No. 22463

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Responsive to the restriction requirement of February, 7 2003, Applicant hereby elects the Group I claims – claims 2 to 18 and 24 to 30 – for continued prosecution in this application, with traverse.

The office action suggests that, in respect of the distinct inventions of Group I, Group II, and Group III “the search required for Group I is not required for Group I or III”. However, MPEP 808.02 also requires that a separate field of search is required. It is suggested that it would be necessary to search the claims of any of Groups I, II, or III in all of the classes/subclasses listed at the top of page 2 of the Action to fully search any of these groups of claims. In consequence, it is suggested that a *prima facie* showing of the need for restriction of the claims

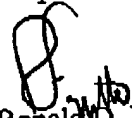
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MAR 05 2003
GROUP 1700

Serial No. 09/883,244
Group Art Unit: 1734

- Page 2 -

in Groups I, II and III has not be established. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the restrictions requirement is requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Ronald D. Faggetter
Registration No. 33,345

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Suite 1500, Box 111
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M5G 2K8
Telephone: (416) 593-5514
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